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Atty. Docket No. HYZ-069CN

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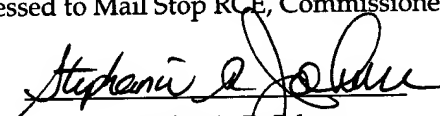
Applicant:	Agrawal	Art Unit:	1635
Serial No.:	09/837,806	Examiner:	Zara, Jane J.
Filing Date:	April 18, 2001	Customer No.:	23483
Title:	Novel HIV-Specific Synthetic Oligonucleotides and Methods of Their Use	Confirmation No.:	8489

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

22 Sept. 2003

Date of Signature and  
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Stephanie R. Johnson

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION PURSUANT  
TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby request continued examination of this application according to 37 C.F.R § 1.114 by filing a submission (this Amendment and a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement) and the required fee set forth in § 1.17(e).

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on April 22, 2003, Applicant offers the following amendment and remarks.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.

**Conclusions** begin on page 16 of this paper.

An attachment including a reference referred to in this response is attached following page 17 of this paper.

Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows.